Mr. E. H. Sedgwick. The nest was from the property of Mr. A. Farr, one mile north of Caron, and was built in a York gum. It was said to have been constructed in the 1947 season, but was blown down by mid-September winds before it was actually used. The nest weighed 13¾ lb. and when I took it to pieces, found it to consist of 286 pieces of wire which totalled 338 feet in length. The pieces ranged from 3 inches to 4 feet 10 inches, but most were between 7 inches and 1 foot 8 inches, the mean length being 1 foot 2 inches. Most of the pieces were of twisted scraps of fencing wire of various gauges, with several bits of barbed wire and a few lengths of thinner wire. There were also two wire bucket handles, some wire bent into the form of a spectacle frame, evidently by a child, and a length of lead-insulated telephone cable, 2 feet long. Besides the wire there was also a piece of twine which the birds had either knotted around the wires or passed the wires through the twine.

—D. L. SERVENTY, Nedlands.

***Eucalyptus* from Abrolhos Islands.**—Some time ago I received from Dr. D. L. Serventy a specimen of a species of *Eucalyptus* from East Wallaby Island in the Abrolhos group, the first record of the genus from these islands. An examination showed the species to be *Eucalyptus gracilis* F. Muell., the Yorrel tree of the interior, commonly associated with heavy clay soils in low-lying situations and exhibiting a certain degree of salt tolerance. Since this species is, as far as we know, confined to the interior and nowhere known from nearer the coast than one hundred miles, it is of more than passing interest that it should occur again in a maritime situation growing in limestone soils. The plant from the Abrolhos is typical except that its leaves appear to be of thicker texture and of a brighter green.

Dr. Serventy collected the plant on December 8, 1945, during a visit to the Abrolhos with Mr. G. P. Whitley and the late Erik Akerstrom in the ketch "Isobel." The eucalypts grew only in one locality on East Wallaby Island and formed a dense but narrow thicket about 200 yards long, in a north-south line. The formation was of stunted tree growth, not mallee, and bent down by the southerly winds. The plants were in bud and flower at the time Mr. Akerstrom discovered the thicket about eight years previously and stated that it had increased in width since he had last seen it but had become bent over more. Previously it had been taller. The height was now about 7-8 feet.

—C. A. GARDNER, State Herbarium, Perth.

An Introduced Pond Snail in the Murray District.—The pond snail, *Limnaea (Peplimnaea) lessoni* of eastern Australia, only made its presence felt in the Coolup swamps in the last few years. In 1940 we had a very light winter with a precipitation of only 20.30 inches. Most of the peat swamps, which usually fill up in the winter, remained completely dry as did the "Yanjettee" swamps, which usually have four or five feet of water in the winter months and do not dry off until January or February. At this time as far as I know the snail was not present. It appears to have arrived during the winter of 1941 and had reached alarming proportions by Novem-

ber, 1944. For the next three years it was very plentiful, then in 1948 there appeared to be a big decrease—the season in 1948 was a very late one.

During the period of the rapid increase I had introduced water couch *(Paspalum distichum)* into the main swamp and this may have had some bearing on it. The snail feeds freely on this grass which grows up through the water, and when the snail is plentiful it may be seen in hundreds attached to the shoots. At other times it floats around with the shell hanging down, the opening flush with the water surface. At such times the "sip sip" sound of countless snails is quite audible. The ideal habitat for the snail in this district is a rich peaty swamp completely cleared and carrying water couch. Birds do not seem to favour the snail for food as these swamps carry a big bird population, ranging from a variety of water-fowl, waders, herons, ibis, etc., to Magpie-Larks. Yet the snail is evidently spread either by birds or farm stock (cattle and sheep). This might be done through the adherence of mud to the feet of the animals.

—ANGUS ROBINSON, "Yanjettee," Coolup.

Land-birds of Garden Island.—In November 1948 I made a five-day collecting trip on Garden Island on behalf of the Western Australian Museum. Eighteen skins were collected and two new records were made for the island. Dr. D. L. Serventy has in *The Emu*, vol. 37, 1938, p. 267, enumerated all the birds recorded for the island up to that date, and Mr. E. H. Sedgwick added others in *The Emu*, vol. 40, 1940, p. 130. In the following list the new additions are marked with an asterisk:—

I met with 16 species of land-birds: Indian Turtledove *(Streptopelia chinensis)*. Senegal Turtledove *(S. senegalensis)*—both species occur in quite appreciable numbers. Banded Plover *(Zonifer tricolor)**—a group of about eight on the beach near the homestead. Kestrel *(Falco cenchroides)*. Golden Bronze Cuckoo *(Chalcites lucidus)**—one specimen was seen; it was not calling. Welcome Swallow *(Hirundo neoxena)*. Willy Wagtail *(Rhipidura tricolor)*. Grey Fantail *(Rhipidura fuliginosa)*. Golden Whistler *(Pachycephala pectoralis)*—fairly numerous. Western Warbler *(Gerygone fusca)*. Silver-eye *(Zosterops australasiæ)*—undoubtedly the most numerous and widely distributed species on the island. Singing Honeyeater *(Meliphaga virescens)*—fairly numerous. Australian Pipit *(Anthus australis)*—only found at the south extremity of the island. Raven *(Corvus coronoides)*. Grey Butcher-bird *(Craetieus torquatus)*. Western Magpie *(Gymnorhina dorsalis)*—four birds seen near the homestead. Five species recorded by earlier observers were not met with by me (namely, Brush Bronzewing, Kookaburra, Sacred Kingfisher, Tree-martin and White-fronted Chat).

Tammar *(Macropus eugenii)* were very plentiful in the thickets and would come within a couple of chains of the houses. I did not meet with any reptiles or amphibia.

—KEN BULLER, W.A. Museum, Perth.

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P163